

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

The airwaves belong to the American people and as guardians you have a responsibility to the public. Please do not allow the individuals in our country to be held "captive" by permitting local newspapers and television outlets to be "swallowed up" in mega-mergers.

Broadcast TV is an important source of information for many of my relatives, friends and acquaintances. They may not have cable and also no "internet". Please don't dismiss their needs.

Also, consolidation of media outlets is unlikely to promote diversity, ie. women and minorities who may not have access and/or opportunities purely because there will be fewer entities with which to affiliate. We need both diversity of expression, and diversity of available sources. I look to the local broadcasters to provide local political, educational and "news" not provided by the larger media outlets. Local smaller entities, (as with our school boards), are the best assurance that the values of the local community will be reflected and expressed.

Again, I urge you to consider the American people and not allow these potential mega-media outlets to dominate OUR airwaves and news outlets.

Thank you!